

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
U.S. Application No. 10/790,124

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections, for reasons as set forth below.

First, with respect to claim 5, it is noted that present claim 5 requires that the polyvinyl acetal resin have a glass transition temperature of 55 to 110°C, which is not reflected in claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,730,464.

Independent claim 6 also requires that the polyvinyl acetate resin have a glass transition temperature of 55 to 110°C, and furthermore comprises two polyvinyl acetal resin species differing in degree of polymerization by at least 300.

With respect to claim 7, it is understood that the Examiner's rejection is based on the presence of the term use. The Examiner's rejection appears to be based on the assumption that what is claimed is a method or a process. However, claim 7 is directed to a heat-developable photosensitive material. Therefore, the rejection based on the premise that the claim is a process claim that improperly recites a use without a step should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all present basis for rejection of claims 5, 6, and 7 are improper, and should be withdrawn.

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In the event that the Examiner believes it may be helpful to facilitate the further prosecution of the application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

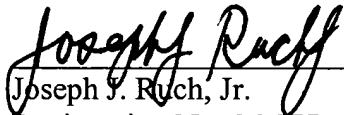
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